

Amendments to the Claims:

Please cancel claims 22, 39, 47, and 50 without prejudice of disclaimer. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-14. (Canceled)

15. (Currently Amended) A method for identifying members of a group, comprising the steps of:

determining dynamic members of a first group based on a rule that defines dynamic membership for said first group, wherein said rule is stored in a dynamic rule attribute of an identity profile of said first group;

storing an identification of each of said dynamic members of said first group;

determining nested members of said first group;

storing an identification of each of said nested members of said first group;

receiving a request to report members of said first group, said request is received subsequent to said step of storing; and

reporting said dynamic members and said nested members of said first group in response to said request, said reporting of said dynamic members is performed based on said stored identification of said dynamic members and said reporting of said nested members is performed based on said stored identification of said nested members.

16. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 15, wherein:

said first group includes one or more static members;

an identification of each of said static members is stored in a static member attribute for said identity profile of said first group; and

said identification of each of said dynamic members is stored in said static member attribute for said identity profile of said first group.

17. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 15, wherein:
said first group includes one or more static members;
an identification of each of said static members is stored in a static member attribute for said identity profile of said first group;
said identity profile of said first group also includes an expansion attribute; and
said method can only be performed if said expansion attribute includes an appropriate value.

18. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 17, wherein:
said method can only be performed for an entity having access to said expansion attribute and said dynamic rule attribute.

19. (Original) A method according to claim 15, wherein:
said steps of determining and storing are automatically repeated.

20. (Original) A method according to claim 15, wherein:
said steps of determining, storing and receiving are performed by an integrated identity and access system.

21. (Original) A method according to claim 20, wherein:
said integrated identity and access system is capable of performing authorization services based on membership in said first group.

22. (Canceled)

23. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim ~~22~~ 15, wherein:
said nested members include members of multiple levels of nested groups.

24. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 22 15, wherein:
said step of determining nested members includes recursively determining
members of group members.

25. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 22 15, wherein:
said first group includes one or more static members; and
said step of reporting includes reporting said static members.

26. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 22 15, wherein said
step of determining nested members includes the steps of:
determining all static group members of said first group;
determining all static and dynamic members of said static group members of said
first group;
determining all static group members of said static group members of said first
group; and
determining all members of said static group members of said static group
members of said first group.

27. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 22 15 wherein:
said first group and nested groups of said first group include rules defining criteria
for being dynamic members; and
said step of determining dynamic members includes the steps of determining a
normalized set of said rules and determining which users are defined by said normalized set of
said rules, said users defined by said normalized set of said rules are said dynamic members of
said first group.

28. (Original) A method according to claim 15, wherein:
said first group includes one or more static members; and
said step of reporting includes reporting said static members.

29-34. (Canceled)

35. (Currently Amended) One or more processor readable storage devices having processor readable code embodied on said processor readable storage devices, said processor readable code for programming one or more processors to perform a method comprising the steps of:

determining dynamic members of a first group based on a rule that defines dynamic membership for said first group, wherein said rule is stored in a dynamic rule attribute of an identity profile of said first group;

storing an identification of each of said dynamic members of said first group;

determining nested members of said first group, said nested members include members of multiple levels of nested groups;

storing an identification of each of said nested members of said first group;

receiving a request to report members of said first group, said request is received subsequent to said step of storing; and

reporting said dynamic members and said nested members of said first group in response to said request, said reporting of said dynamic members is performed based on said stored identification of said dynamic members and said reporting of said nested members is performed based on said stored identification of said nested members.

36. (Original) One or more processor readable storage devices according to claim 35, wherein:

said first group includes one or more static members; and

said step of reporting includes reporting said static members.

37. (Original) One or more processor readable storage devices according to claim 36, wherein:

said steps of determining and storing are automatically repeated.

38. (Original) One or more processor readable storage devices according to claim 36, wherein:

said steps of determining, storing and receiving are performed by an integrated identity and access system.

39-43. (Canceled)

44. (Currently Amended) An apparatus that can determine members of a group, comprising:

a communication interface; and

one or more processors in communication with said communication interface, said one or more processors perform a method comprising the steps of:

determining dynamic members of a first group based on a rule that defines dynamic membership for said first group, wherein said rule is stored in a dynamic rule attribute of an identity profile of said first group and said first group includes one or more static members, storing an identification of each of said dynamic members of said first group,

determining nested members of said first group, said nested members include members of multiple levels of nested groups;

storing an identification of each of said nested members of said first group;

receiving a request to report members of said first group, said request is received subsequent to said step of storing, and

reporting said static members, ~~and~~ said dynamic members, and said nested members of said first group in response to said request, said reporting of said dynamic members is performed based on said stored identification of said dynamic members and said reporting of said nested members is performed based on said stored identification of said nested members.

45. (Original) An apparatus according to claim 44, wherein:

said steps of determining and storing are automatically repeated.

46. (Original) An apparatus according to claim 44, wherein:

said steps of determining, storing and receiving are performed by an integrated identity and access system.

47. (Canceled)

48. (Currently Amended) An integrated identity and access system

comprising:

an identity system adapted to determine dynamic members of a first group based on a rule that defines dynamic membership for said first group, wherein said rule is stored in a dynamic rule attribute of an identity profile of said first group, store an identification of each of said dynamic members of said first group, determine nested members of said first group, store an identification of each of said nested members of said first group, receive a request to report members of said first group, said request is received subsequent to said step of storing, and report said dynamic members and said nested members of said first group in response to said request, said reporting of said dynamic members is performed based on said stored identification of said dynamic members and said reporting of said nested members is performed based on said stored identification of said nested members; and

an access system adapted to perform authentication services based on membership in said first group.

49. (Previously Presented) The integrated identity and access system of claim 48, wherein:

said first group includes one or more static members;

an identification of each of said static members is stored in a static member attribute for said identity profile of said first group; and

said identification of each of said dynamic members is stored in said static member attribute for said identity profile of said first group.

50. (Canceled)

51. (Currently Amended) The integrated identity and access system of claim 50 48, wherein the identity system is adapted to determine nested members by:

determining all static group members of said first group;

determining all static and dynamic members of said static group members of said first group;

determining all static group members of said static group members of said first group; and

determining all members of said static group members of said static group members of said first group.

52. (Currently Amended) The integrated identity and access system of claim 50 48, wherein said first group and nested groups of said first group include rules defining criteria for being dynamic members and the identity system is adapted to determine dynamic members by determining a normalized set of said rules and determining which users are defined by said normalized set of said rules, said users defined by said normalized set of said rules are said dynamic members of said first group.